

SENATE EDUCATION

EXHIBIT NO. 3

DATE 2-14-07

BILL NO. HB 211

House Bill 211, Antidiversion and accountability for Indian Education for All funds
Before the Senate Education Committee, February 16, 2007, 3:00 PM

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for the record, my name is Jan Lombardi, and I am Governor Brian Schweitzer's education policy advisor.

It is my pleasure to be here on behalf of the Governor to support HB 211, sponsored by Representative Windy Boy.

The Governor wants all students to learn about the important history and contemporary issues of Montanan's first people. Indian Education for All funds are important for schools to be able to do just that.

The State Superintendent has in place a mechanism for schools to report to the Office of Public Instruction on the Indian Education for All funds are being used. House Bill 211 reinforces the current practice and assures that an accountability system is in to ensure that funds are appropriately spent on Indian Education for All purposes as intended by the legislature.

I ask this committee to pass HB 211. Thank you.